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COMICS



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DAREDEVIL

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

AGAINST SUCH A CRUSHING
WEIGHT, EVEN THE POWER OF

**CAPTAIN
AMERICA**

MAY NOT SAVE THEM!



"LISTEN TO ME, AMERICA!"

"I AM AN IMMIGRANT. I CAME TO THIS COUNTRY, AND I HAD A DREAM.

"I DREAMT THE AMERICAN DREAM. I DREAMT OF A WONDERFUL INVENTION THAT WOULD SAVE THE WORLD.

"AMERICA! DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU DO? THE WORLD OVER, ALL EYES ARE ON YOU!"

"AS THE COMMUNIST WORLD BREAKS APART, AS THE BERLIN WALL CRUMBLES, AS PEOPLE UNITE AND DEMAND FREEDOM AND CIVIL RIGHTS--THEIR EYES ARE ON YOU, AMERICA!"

"THEY WANT TO FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE, THEY WANT FREEDOM AND PROSPERITY.

"AMERICA! YOU COULD SET AN EXAMPLE AND INSPIRE THE WORLD! ALL EYES ARE ON YOU!"

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

THE AMERICAN NIGHTMARE

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MOCCENTI
WRITER

MARK
BASLEY
PENCILER

WILLIAMSON
+ MORGAN
INKERS

CLEM
ROBINS
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+ RASCHKE
COLORS

RALPH
MACCHIO
EDITOR

TOM DEFalco
EDITOR IN CHIEF

"AMERICA! DO YOU
KNOW WHAT I SEE?"

"THIS IS WHAT I THINK OF
THE 'AMERICAN DREAM'--!"

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THAT WAS THE FUTURE.

THIS IS A DAY EARLIER--THE PRESENT--IN UPGRADE NEW YORK, WHERE ONE ADVENTURE COMES TO A CLOSE.

BUT...HOW CAN WE GO THROUGH SO MUCH TOGETHER... PRESENT!

WE ALL JUST WALK AWAY FROM EACH OTHER? WHY?!

NUMBER NINE, THERE ARE THINGS YOU DO WITH PEOPLE...

WELL, THIS IS IT. TIME TO RETURN HOME, GORGON.

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS WORLD OF HUMANS, COUBIN.

EXPERIENCE SO MUCH...

AND JUST WALK OFF?

I HEAR A CRY--!

AND THINGS YOU DO ALONE.

SUCH A LONER.

SO KIND, SO CAPABLE, SO "COOL," YET UNDERNEATH?

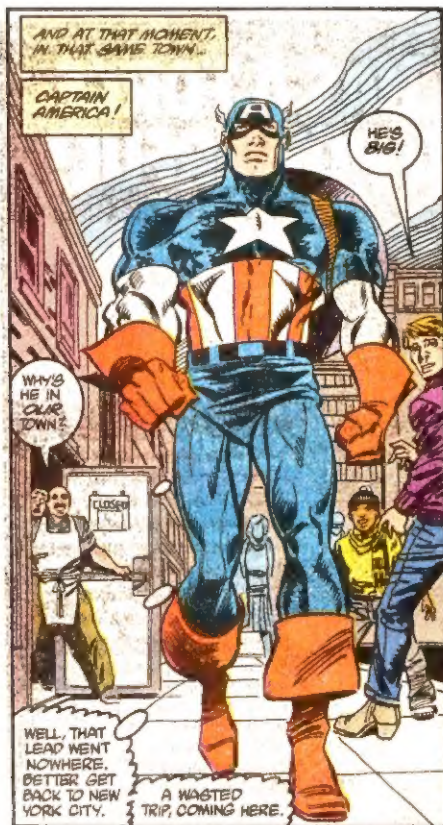
THAT MAN IS RESTING ON AN INFERNO.

THEY PROBABLY THINK MY ABRUPT EXIT IS RUDE.

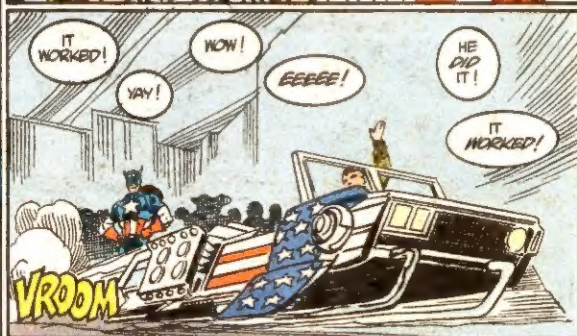
BUT MY SENSES ARE PICKING UP A DISTURBANCE IN THAT TOWN--

--AND I CAN'T EXPLAIN KNOWING THAT WITHOUT EXPLAINING MY HEIGHTENED SENSES...

MAYBE I KID MYSELF. MAYBE I'M JUST TIRED OF SAYING GOODBYE...







LATER, IN A DREAM...

MIND AWAKE,
BODY ASLEEP.

MIND AWAKE,
BODY ASLEEP.

THAT'S WHAT VIKTOR CIESZKOWSKA
SAYS TO HIMSELF, OVER AND OVER,
BEFORE GOING TO SLEEP.

BECAUSE WHEN HE STAYS
AWAKE WHILE DREAMING--

--OR "LUCID DREAMING",
AS SOME CALL IT--

--HE CAN
CREATE!

BZZNG!

BZZNG!

WHAAZ?

BZZNG!

UH, THE
PHONE

DARN, I
WAS ALMOST
THERE

BZZNG!

MY INVENTION
CAME TO ME IN
A DREAM.

I BUILT
IT IN A TRANCE-
STATE.

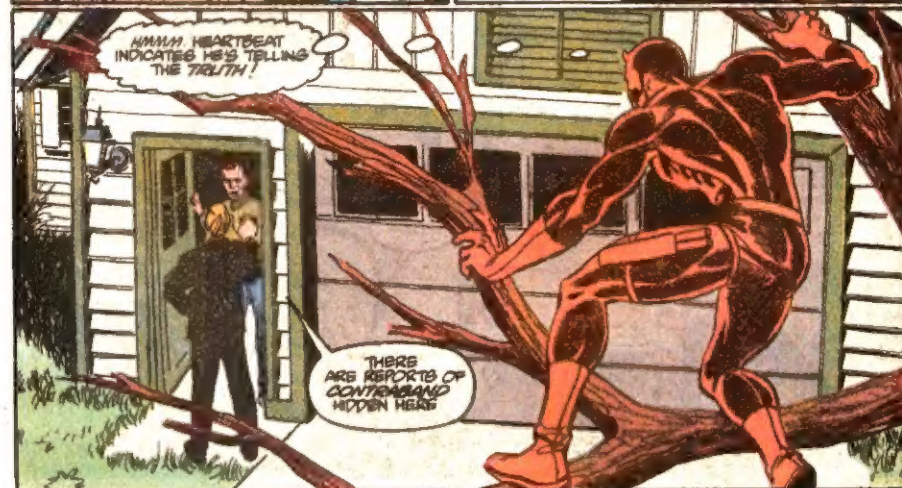
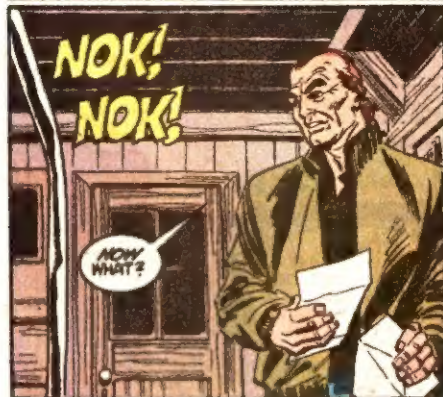
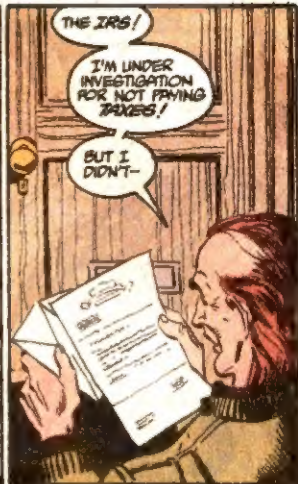
BUT NOW I
MUST ANALYZE IT
AND GET SOMETHING
ON PAPER, DRESS IT UP
IN LOGICAL SCIENTIFIC
PROOFS, FOR THE
"REAL" WORLD

BZZNG!

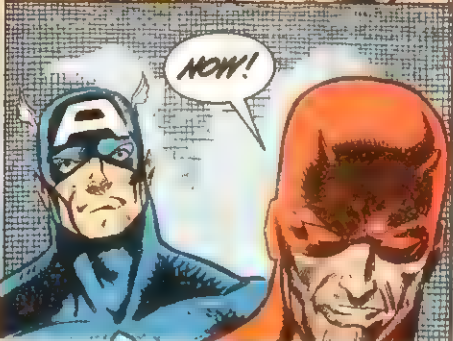
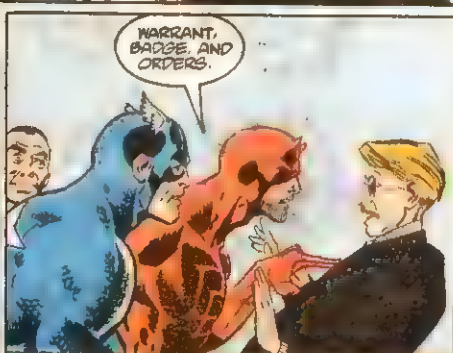
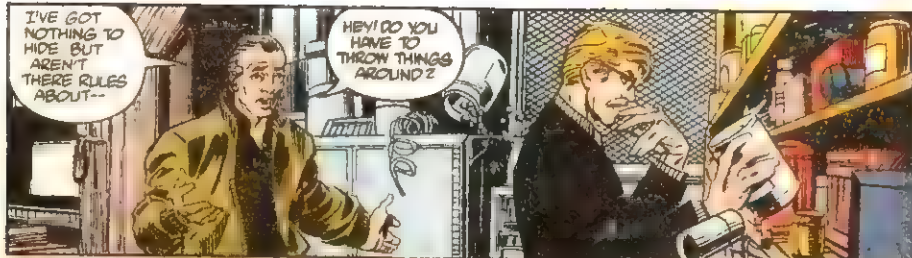
THERE IS
SOMETHING WRONG
WITH A WORLD
WHERE TECHNOLOGY
SO RUDELY
INTERLUPTS
DREAM TIME.

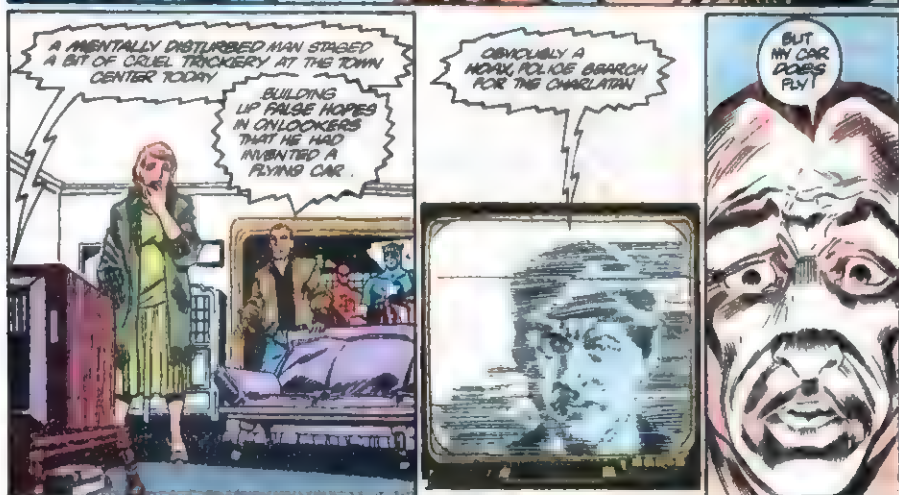
HELLO?

THIS IS
IMMIGRATION.









LATER THAT NIGHT.

IT'S JUST DIFFERENT, DAREDEVIL. THE MOOD OF THE COUNTRY—IT'S CHANGING.

HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED?

I'VE NOTICED THE RAGE.

THE RAGE OF THE POOR, ANGRY AT THE OBVIOUS WEALTH AROUND THEM.

AND THE RACISM...

YES. SO MUCH MORE BETWEEN RACES BETWEEN CLASSES.

THERE'S SUCH A GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR.

IN NEW YORK, IT'S LIKE A THIRD WORLD COUNTRY LIVING AT THE FEET OF ELITE CORPORATE KINGS.

STRANGE, TOO--TO WATCH EASTERN EUROPE--THE REBELLIONS AROUND THE WORLD FOR EQUALITY AND A CHANCE AT A BETTER LIFE...

IT'S AS IF AMERICA IS LAGGING BEHIND.

EXACTLY! POWER AND WEALTH ARE SO CONCENTRATED, AND ALL WE DO IS CUT SOCIAL PROGRAMS!

IN BERLIN, POLAND, EVEN THE SOVIET UNION--PEOPLE ARE MAKING DEMANDS AND BEING HEARD!

THE WORLD IS CHANGING-- BUT AMERICA WILL BE THE LAST TO CHANGE.

OF COURSE THEY ARE ATTACKING MOTOR--

THE AUTO-OIL-MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX WOULD NEVER ALLOW A NON-POLLUTING, CHEAP-FUEL CAR TO EXIST!

STRANGE. I'VE TALKED TO CAPTAIN AMERICA BEFORE.

HIS CAR THREATENS THE OIL INDUSTRY.

THIS COUNTRY STANDS FOR PROGRESS AND TECHNOLOGY, BUT WHAT IT REALLY STANDS FOR IS PLANNED OBSOLESCENCE.

HE USUALLY STANDS SO COOL AND RESTRAINED.

I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SO BARBED... SO OUTRAGED.

EVEN WHAT HE'S SAYING--I WOULD HAVE GUESSED HE'D VIEW SUCH IDEAS AS SUBVERSIVE.



HOW CAN THEY EXPECT ME TO CONTINUE TO WEAR THIS FLAG OF A COUNTRY THAT DOES SUCH THINGS?

AND THEY DID IT! AMERICA GAINED HER INDEPENDENCE!

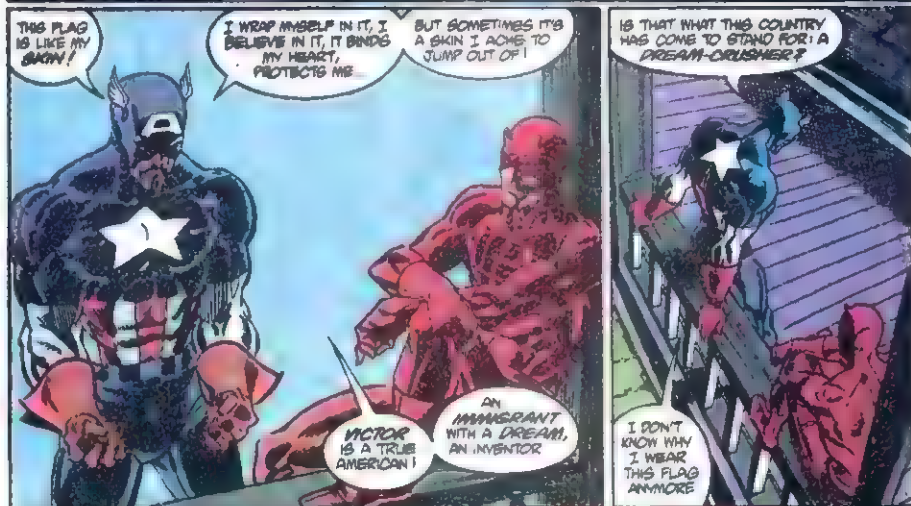
BUT DID SHE?

WHEN THOMAS PAINE WROTE *COMMON SENSE*--A BOOK THAT HELPED INSPIRE THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION--

IT WAS A CALL TO THROW OFF THE TYRANNY OF A MONARCHY, TO GET RID OF THE ELITE RULING CLASS!

SOMETIMES I THINK ALL WE DID WAS REPLACE KING AND CROWN WITH THE ROYAL ARISTOCRACY OF THE CORPORATE ELITE.

MAN IS STILL TYRANNIZED BY THE CORPORATE KINGS.



THIS FLAG IS LIKE MY SKIN!

I WRAP MYSELF IN IT, I BELIEVE IN IT, IT BINDS MY HEART, PROTECTS ME.

BUT SOMETIMES IT'S A SKIN I COME TO JUMP OUT OF!

IS THAT WHAT THIS COUNTRY HAS COME TO STAND FOR? A DREAM-CRUSHER?

VICTOR IS A TRUE AMERICAN!

AN IMMIGRANT WITH A DREAM, AN INVENTOR.

I DON'T KNOW WHY I WEAR THIS FLAG ANYMORE.



DO YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, DARDEVIL?

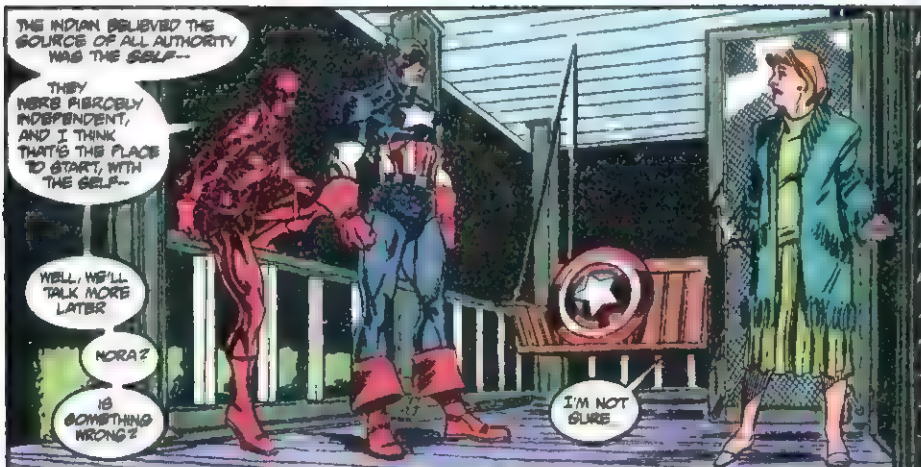
WHY DO YOU WEAR THE DEVIL SUIT?

WHAT DO YOU STAND FOR?

I DON'T ALWAYS KNOW.

BUT I DO KNOW THIS COUNTRY WAS ALSO FOUNDED BY THE NATIVE AMERICAN INDIANS THAT WERE HERE FIRST.

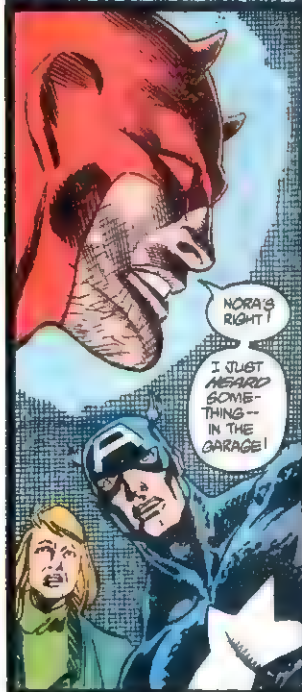
THEY ALSO HAD DREAMS THAT WERE CRUSHED.





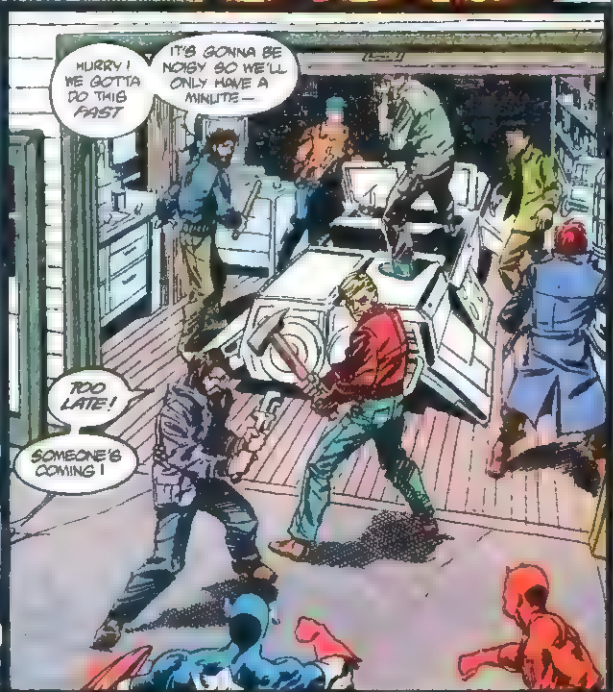
"I HEARD HIM DRY OUT--
THAT SOMEONE WAS TRYING
TO DESTROY HIS CAR!"

"I KNOW IT'S JUST
A DREAM, BUT..."



NORA'S
RIGHT!

I JUST
HEARD
SOME-
THING--
IN THE
GARAGE!



HURRY!
WE GOTTA
DO THIS
FAST

IT'S GONNA BE
NOISY SO WE'LL
ONLY HAVE A
MINUTE--

TOO
LATE!

SOMEONE'S
COMING!

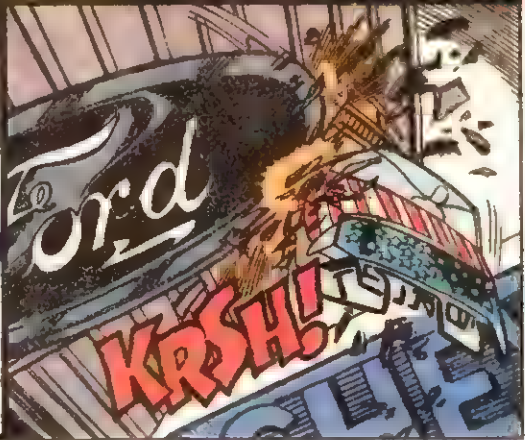
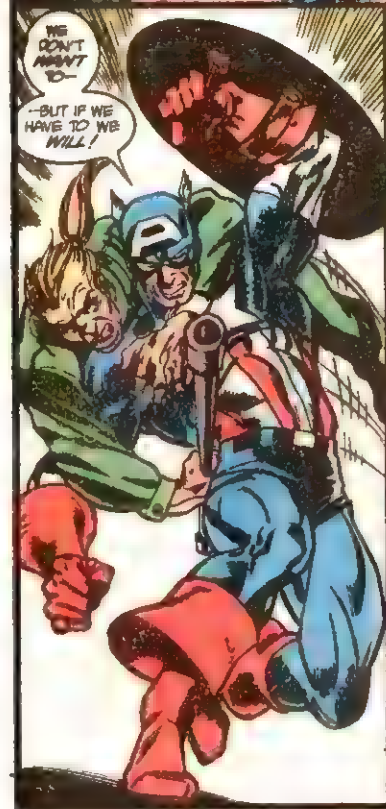
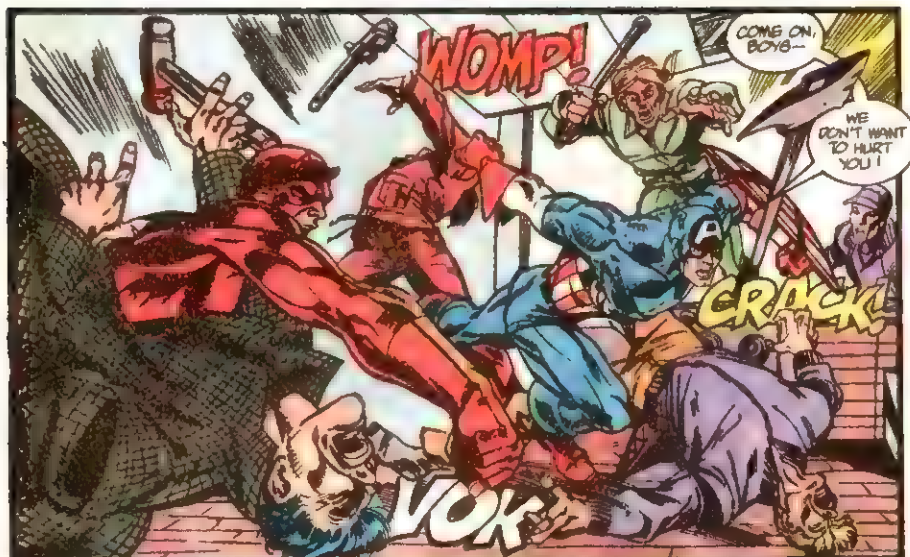
BACK
OFF!

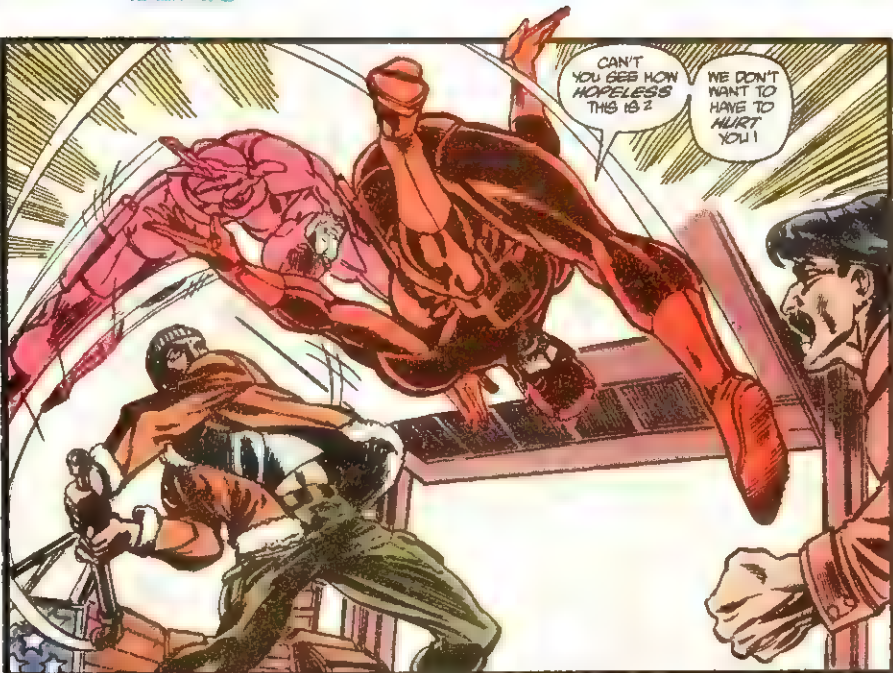
DON'T
TOUCH THAT
CAR!

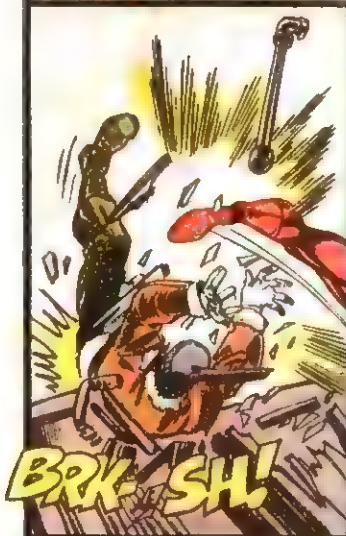
PUT
DOWN THAT
HAMMER!

DAREDEVIL—
THEY'RE NOT
LISTENING!

I
HEAR
YOU!









WE FAILED, DAREDEVIL.



LOOK!

MY HUSBAND'S GONE!

HE LEFT A NOTE--TO MEET HIM HERE--IN THE MORNING!



I'M FRIGHTENED!

HE WOKS SCREAMING FROM A NIGHTMARE!

DON'T WORRY.

NOTHING WILL HURT HIM--



--I SNEAK!

AND THAT MORNING, IN THE TOWN CENTER...



IT'S THAT CRACKPOT!

THE ONE WHO TRIED TO TRICK US WITH THE FAKE FLYING CAR!

...THE POLICE ARE RUSHING TO THE ROOFTOP...

...BUT IT MAY BE TOO LATE...



ROOF GUN...

THOUGHT HIS CAR COULD FLY...

HE LIED TO US ABOUT THAT CAR!

NO! HE WASN'T LYING!

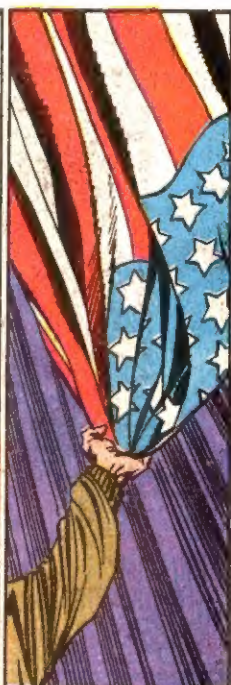
THE TV LIES!

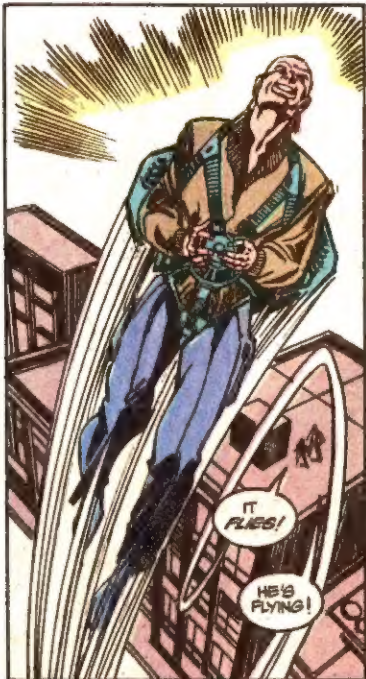
WATER!

HE THREW US OFF BY TELLING US TO BE AT HIS HOME!

LET'S HEAD UP THERE!

"THIS IS WHAT
I THINK OF
YOU, AMERICA!"





IT
FLIES!

HE'S
FLYING!



THAT'S MY
VICTOR!

HE
DREAMED
HIS DREAM
AGAIN!

HE
CAN
FLY!

THAT'S
THE MAN I
KNOW AND
LOVE!



AND
THIS—



—IS THE
FLAG I
KNOW
AND
LOVE.

end

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: EDITOR—MICHAEL HEISLER: ASSISTANT EDITOR
C/O MARVEL COMICS—387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH—NEW YORK, NEW YORK—10016

ATTENTION CORRESPONDENTS: ALL LETTERS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS (THOUGH WE WILL WITHHOLD THAT INFO BY REQUEST)

Dear People without Fear,

Here's a list of things I don't want to see in DAREDEVIL:
X-Men crossovers, Inhumans, Number Nine, Blackheart, The Blob, Pyro, inventory issues, stories about why we shouldn't eat meat, plots that try to tackle the nature of good and evil.

Here's what I do want to see in DAREDEVIL:

Karen Page, Manhattan, Typhoid Mary, Kingpin, Bullseye, Elektra, Typhoid Mary, The Owl, the Black Widow, the law clinic, and Typhoid Mary.

Oh, and did I mention Typhoid Mary?

Augie Pirella

(Address Withheld by request)

Hey Augie, a wink is as good as a nod to a blind man. Unfortunately, DD is the only one around here who's blind, and he's not sure he wants to see Typhoid Mary again, let alone see Typhoid Mary again. Did we mention he doesn't want to see Typhoid Mary? All kidding aside, he really does not want to see old dread-head again—so you can bank, quarters to Kingpins, he will definitely have to, and soon!

Dear DAREDEVILs,

DAREDEVIL is great! Terrific! Wonderful! Swell even!

The latest issues of DAREDEVIL have been the best I've ever seen. We are seeing DD as himself, not just as a reaction to people around him. I especially love the treatment of Mephisto and his "son", Blackheart. When I first heard Mephisto was going to appear in DD, I groaned, expecting some lazy Good Vs. Evil storyline. I'm glad you proved me wrong! Mephisto and Junior truly act evil, like the devil trying to corrupt a man's soul, and not just some juiced up super villain. Well done!

Robert W. Heyn

13105 Ocean St.

New Orleans, LA 70128

It's unanimous then, Robert. Mephisto, ruler of the underworld, the devourer of evil souls and general enemy of the good & righteous, is one bad apple. We knew there was something about him we loved to hate!

Dear Major Marvel Dudes,

In regards to DAREDEVIL # 277. It was awesome! I usually only purchase X-MEN, X-FACTOR, NEW MUTANTS and PUNISHER. I have to limit my collection. But I was more than happy to go the extra mile for DAREDEVIL #277! It wasn't the usual blood, sweat and tears (don't get me wrong—I love that) but an impressive change in the story pattern, different from what I'm used to. Due to my satisfaction with this

issue of DD, I'm adding it to my purchase list! Later!

R.A.Z. U.S.M.C.

(Address withheld by request)

Ahh, another satisfied customer.

Dear DAREDEVIL,

I have not been a DAREDEVIL collector for very long, but in my time, I have obtained many previous issues, and have seen this character pass from the hands of the eminently capable Mr. Frank Miller to the genius of Dennis O'Neill and now the torch has passed to Ms. Nocenti. I don't mean to sound ungrateful, but I have long admired Ms. Nocenti's work on LONGSHOT and I do not feel she is right for DAREDEVIL.

I am aware that every character needs to be taken in different directions from time to time, but Ann has taken this way too far. Every issue is a spiritual, social, or political message, and while there is nothing wrong with this, it has definitely taken away from the adventure of the series (with the exception of the Typhoid Mary storyline).

At times there was so much violence and adventure that it drags on story-wise and there is no real point evident. But the current storyline is too much in the opposite direction. Please take to mind my suggestions. Thanks.

Rich Kean

16 Arborwood Lane

White Plains, NY 10603

From Manhattan all the way to Update New York, too far? Gee, and Matt just got the new all-red hiking boots and everything...oh well. The bugs were starting to get bothersome anyway. Maybe its time to come home...

Dear Advocate,

DD #277 was different, but I really liked it. A lady in distress, an angel in a devil's garb, and a girl who sees the devil in Matt, but knows he is good.

Ann Nocenti's work borders masterpiece level. And with the addition of the Rick Leonard magic touch, I have to say that this issue broke through the border and the waters flooded with excellence.

Matt is a human character—he has solidity. I see other characters and I say, "This guy is just a cardboard cut-out, and I can see the writer pulling the strings." But Ann handles her characters well, and she makes them believable, and makes them real. She breathes life into them and allows them to move about freely. I can only applaud. Until Matt is de-horned, Make Mine Marvel!

Damon Frusha

112 North Texas Street

DeRidder, LA 70634

Dear Marvel,

In reference to DAREDEVIL #211: Could it be that Daredevil is the first hero to see the merits of the simple message of the well-known philosopher who tried to tell us that revenge is not the answer? Is Daredevil beginning to realize that when something is wrong, it calls for correction, not retribution? Vengeance is a dangerous over-reaction which most popular heroes seem to cater to exclusively. Sadly, vengeance is probably the reason that they are so popular.

Maybe Daredevil is going to be the first popular hero to understand the words of the aforementioned philosopher: "Turn the other cheek." Let's hope he can do it without over-compensating. The opposite of vengeance (in this case) is masochism. Daredevil needs to avoid exposing his cheek wretchedly.

I for one would buy every issue of a magazine featuring a unique hero that isn't out for revenge, but bravely and thoughtfully does everything he can to stop evil in its tracks. Such a feat would require a true hero.

Matt Bristol

W 1227 5th Avenue

Spokane, WA 99204

Daredevil's personal philosophy has always been to help those who cannot help themselves to save off their oppressors. Unfortunately, most often those forces that DD worked against were the first to use violence—leaving DD having to defend himself—and being more than able to take them out. DD is a fighter and always has been—but he fights for those who can't fight for themselves, against those for whom fighting is a path to power, and oppression. And, in the words of another philosopher, most often, "All that is needed for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

NOT QUITE NEXT ISSUE: Daredevil returns the favor by appearing in CAPTAIN AMERICA #374 (on sale right now) and in #375 (on sale in two weeks), where we all begin to get a glimpse of just what the heck is wrong with Cap. Then DD comes right back here for...

NEXT ISSUE: DD tries to figure out just what the heck is wrong with himself, as special guest penciler Lee Weeks joins regular writer Ann Nocenti andinker Al Williamson for "THE OUTSIDER!"